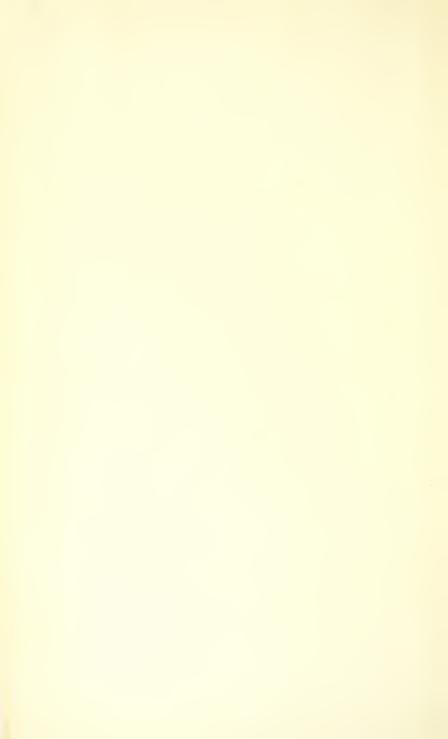


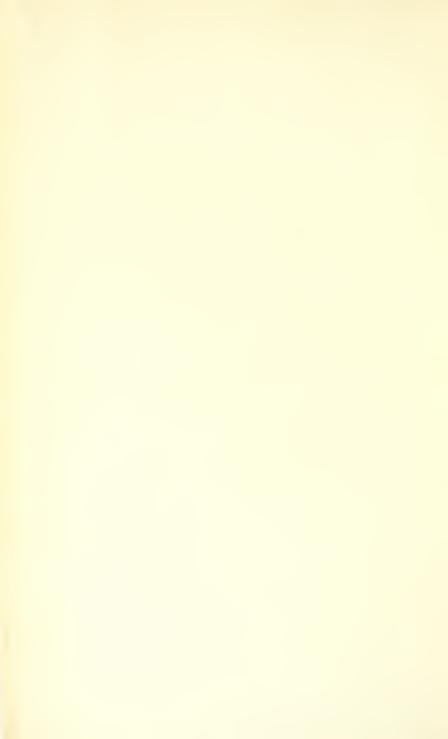
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KIRKELLE







A BRIEF HISTORY

OF THE

KIRKBRIDE FAMILY

WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE
DESCENDENTS OF DAVID
KIRKBRIDE
1775-1830

PREPARED BY SHERMAN A. KIRKBRIDE



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ALLIANCE LEADER PRINT
ALLIANCE, OHIO

TRUS & LUBEL

HISTORY OF THE KIRKBRIDE FAMILY



LOUIS H. KIRKBRIDE, 1840-1913
Our honored president, recently deceased

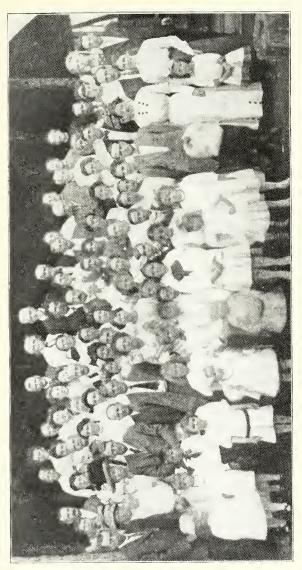
PREFACE

The history within, prepared for the Kirkbride family reunion at Lake Park, near Alliance. Ohio, Sept. 2, 1911, is based upon a little booklet entitled "Domestic Portraiture of the Kirkbride Family," published by the eastern branch of the connection in 1824. This booklet was in the posession of Mrs. Frances Keen Kirkbride and was copied carefully with pen and ink by Mrs. Marv K. Warren who kindly turned over to me the copy with other material she had been able to gather. At the reunion, 1910,—Louis H. Kirkbride, president—a committee of three consisting of Rev. Sherman A. Kirkbride, for the Berlin, O., branch, Frances Kirkbride for the Salem, O., branch and Mrs. Mary K. Warren for the New Jersey branch of the family were appointed to prepare a history to be read the following year.

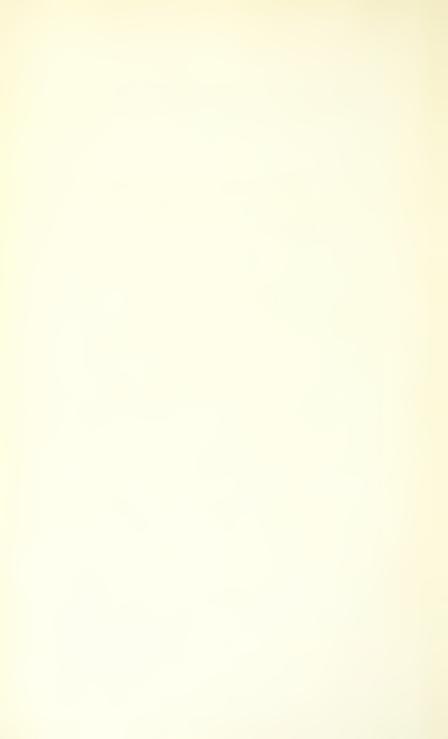
The work of composing was assumed by Sherman and it has been a task congenial, even if arduous. Access to a fine collection of co'onial records at Washington and Jefferson Co'lege was made possible by an official visit to that institution, and a vacation of several weeks at Washington, D. C., with privilege of the magnificent Congressional Library made other original records available so that your committee

has verified much of the old booklet, and corrected some mistakes,—rare, for the book is admirably gotten up,—and also added some new light, as for example the date 1681 for Joseph Kirkbride's arrival in America; and the death of Robert, mentioned casually in a note in the large modern history of Bucks County. The records of the Bucks County Historical Society are perhaps unsurpassed by those of any other county in the United States. And our ancestors occupied a very large place in the affairs of the colonies there.

This sketch is submitted with reserve, for the history is imperfect, partly because of mistakes or uncertainties or omission in the records preserved, and partly because of limited opportunity to prosecute inquiries. But the record of such noble beginnings is easily worth while.



Kirkbride Reunion, Lake Park, Sept. 2, 1911



A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE KIRKBRIDE FAMILY

THE NAME

Whence came our name Kirkbride? Your historian was in blankest ignorance of its derivation until the reunion at Lake Park Sept. 2, 1911 There a letter from Mrs. Charles Walton of Woodbury, N. J., was furnished which gave this strange bit of history as authentic. Some time before 1066 A. D., the time of the Norman conquest, a church was built in a parish twelve miles west of Carlyle, Cumberland county, north-west England, and was dedicated to St. Brydock, or St. Bride, one of the earliest missionaries who came from Ireland to convert the inhabitants of the wild regions around Solway Firth. The village about St. Brydock church (called Bride kirk, or kirk Bride), fell to the inheritance of Odard III. Baron of Wilton: and his descendants took their name from the estate and were known as De Kirkbrides. The last of these in direct succession sold the manor in 1540 and during the tumult of the Commonwealth under Cromwell. no entries were made in register, none till 1660.

Whether the b'ood of Baron Odard flows in our veins or not we do not know,—nor care. But our ancestors came from his estates, and we still bear the name that took root in the old St. Brydock's kirk, a church which was o'der when Columbus discovered America, than the ships of Columbus would be now.

THE PIONEERS

To come of Quaker stock and have the blood of pioneers coursing in our veins is no small honor. It is good to know that our family tree is sound at the roots. Of course the leaves of that tree can not hide our nakedness if we dishonor the ancestral name and fame; each stands or falls on merit of his own. But the family tree affords pleasanter shade to sit under if its timber is well-rooted, sound at the core, and reasonably free from rotten fruits. Such shelter we can claim; and it is a priceless heritage.

The first settlers of America were brave and noble men. And for them this goodly land had waited long. For centuries God had stayed the tides of emigration till He could develop a people worthy of such a country. Its vast forests, its broad prairies, its fertile soil underlaid with mineral treasures beyond even the dreams of avarice.

its rivers filled with fish and fit for ships of commerce, its great area, instinct with the spirit of freedom if not of progress, all these were centuries old before the white man ever set foot on the Western Hemisphere. The Norsemen, stern and rude and venturesome, had long ago reached our coasts but could not colonize. Reckless fortune-hunters from Spain and Portugal and France had found our continent, but were not at home.

They were bold to explore and valiant to conquer, but God Almighty, the great original Land Owner, kept the key of his American treasure house for better men.

He swept northern Europe with the purifying fires of the Reformation, brought out by hardship and trial the best that was in the noblest bloods: he chastened the character and sharpened the conscience and set firm and fearless the convictions of resolute, and devout men. and then with the whip of persecution He drove them forth to find freedom of conscience in a new world. And so they came, not molly-coddles, but beroes of brain and brawn and force and initiative as well as piety. So came the Puritans from England, the Covenanters from Scotland, the sturdy Dutch from Holland and the unflinching Huguenots from France. They were worthy to possess the "land of the free and home of the brave." And with them, easily their equal in virtue and devotion, and certainly not inferior in

kindness and high-souled honesty, came the Quakers, including our ancestors, under William Penn.

ANCESTRY IN ENGLAND

The parish town of Kirkbride lies twelve miles west of Carlyle, Cumberland county, northwest England. There in the quaint little villige with its parish house then almost six hundred years old, its low, straw-covered cottages whose window panes were four by six inches, Matthew and Magdalene Kirkbride had settled as bride and groom about 1655. The Society of Friends, was just organizing in England, and the happy pair joined that movement. Between the years 1659 and 1668 their home was gladdened by the birth of five children, viz: John, Matthew, Joseph, Sarah and Thomas. Of these children, Joseph, who was born about 1662, will form the central figure in this history. With the rest of the English family we must take our leave, noting only that Matthew, the second son seems to have emigrated to America, and "cousins Thomas and Joseph" are remembered in the will of Joseph Kirkbride, our ancestor.

Oppressed alike by magistrate and priest, yet fully resolved to keep their lives true and

their testimony pure, the Quakers in England began to seek religious liberty across the sea. William Penn, their leader, had purchased from King Charles, and with honor and honesty bright as the golden rule, would also repurchase from the Indians as rightful owners, the PROVINCE of PENNSYLVANIA in the new world. To this he invited his fellow-believers, and they were not slow to avail themselves of its privileges. To enjoy such unvexed freedom with welcome hospitality and good-fellowship thrown in, they left home and life-long associations, dared the then frightful perils of an ocean voyage, and braved the unknown hardships of a settlement yet to be made among wild men in the unbroken forests.

Emigration soon was rife among the English Friends. Pennsylvania became a household word in Cumberland county including Kirkbride town.

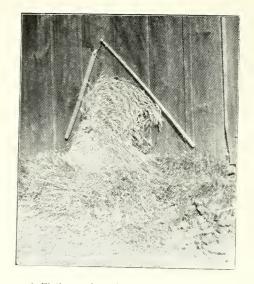
Some already settled in America wrote back glowing word of peace and plenty. One letter famous above all others was so comprehensive and clear and convincing, and withal so quaint and stately in its language that several standard colonial histories quote it in full. There were croakers in those days, spies sending back evil reports from the new land, and in reply to these Mahlon Stacy, our first ancestor in the new world, formerly a tanner of Hansworth, Yorkshire, England, who in 1678 had sailed from Hull

with his wife and children,—including Sarah, from whom we are descended, then six years old—and several servants, on the Ship "Shield," and who had arrived in December of that year, wrote to his brother Revell a delightful letter telling of the goodly land which, if not flowing with milk and honey, was at least teeming in wild luxuriance with game and fish and, fruit and grain (See Appendix.)—But of him more again.

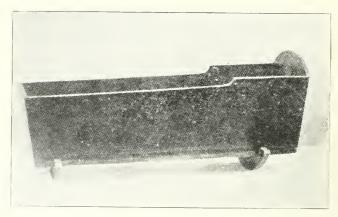
The good word reached the ears of Matthew Kirkbride's family. Joseph, his third son, then a lad of nineteen, was invited to join an expidition fitting out at Bristol in 1681. He was bound out as apprentice to a tradesman, and could not then settle in full with his master, but this was his life chance and he took it. With a small bundle of clothing and a FLAIL as his stock in trade, (one history hints at a wallet of money besides) he boarded the ship "Bristol Factor" at Bristol, set down his bundle, stowed away his flail (what an heirloom it would be now) and faced the faroff shores of Pennsylvania, arriving safely in the Delaware, according to our published family records, the 29th of Seventh month, 1682. (One account says he came in the John and Sarah, leaving England October, 1681. Likely right as to time and wrong as to vessel.) W. J. Buck, however in his History of Bucks county, edition of 1855, in an appended note, corrects as a mistake his own dating of 1682, in the body of the work, by declaring positively that Joseph Kirkbride arrived on the Bristol Factor in December of 1681. It matters little to us about the date, for he surely got here, and because he came, we are here today.

AMERICAN BEGINNINGS

In a sense he was a run-away boy in a far country, but unlike the prodigal he did not spend his substance in riotous living; the choicest influences of earth were around him and the best manhood that was in him responded. A few months after him in 1682, came William Penn on the ship Welcome, and Joseph was for a while in his employ at Pennsbury. Soon he moved across the Delaware into New Jersey. In 1687 he came back to marry Phebe the daughter of Randall Blackshaw. Following the custom of the Friends they both announced publicly their intentions of marriage and according to the minute of the meeting it was resolved that "as Joseph has mostly resided in Jersey he is required to bring a certificate of his clearness from similar engagements" over there. In due course they were married, and had five children, Joseph, Martha, Phebe, Hannah and Jane, the mother dving when they were small.



A Flail was the sole stock in trade which the original Joseph Kirkbride brought to America



Letitia Penn's Cradle in which many of our ancestors were rocked

Their descendants through these children, we can not trace here, nor those of Joseph's third wife Mary Yardly Fletcher, daughter of Robert Eletcher, whom he married in 1740 and who bore him seven children, John, Robert, Thomas, Sarah, Thomas, thad the first Thomas died?) and Jane. Others will give them record of which they are worthy. But we are descended from his second marriage when he claimed the sweet girl Sarah Stacy for a bride, the 17th of 10th Month, 1702. It was her father Mahlon Stacy that wrote the famous letter in 1680. He was greatly honored in the life of the colony, a man of wealth, ability and enterprise, as well as of character and standing. For \$3,500 he with four others had purchased one-tenth of West Jersey, "with right of choice." He chose from "the Falls of the Delaware downward," signing articles therefore in 1676. Late in 1678 he had embarked from Hull on the "Shield," captain Daniel Towes, and after a favorable vovage sailed up the Delaware amid scenes so primeval that where Philadelphia afterward was built, wilderness tree-tops brushed into the rigging of the ship. They moored the vessel to a tree opposite Burlington on a night in December, (some say November,) a night so cold that in the morning passengers walked ashore over the ice.*

^{*}See picture of traditional Burlington tree on page 59.

Mahlon Stacy fixed his residence at what is now South Trenton, N. J., and built the first grist mill east of the Delaware, and the second in all the province. He was often in the Provincial Assembly and Council and left his name on many important state papers. He was a minister among the Friends, much in demand, and in 1683 was named on a select committee to arrange for the union of all Friends of America into one yearly Meeting. Until late in life it was his habit to paddle his canoe across the Delaware below the Falls, and walk to Fallsington on meeting days. He finished his earnest, active and devoted life the 3rd of Second Month, 1704. The name of MAHLON has with good right. been worn in every generation of the family down to the present time.

In Sarah, the daughter of Mahlon Stacy, Joseph Kirkbride found a jewel too precious to keep. She bore him a son, Mahlon, in 1703, and a few days afterward sickened and died, at the early age of 29. The Falls Monthly Meeting has preserved the following testimony as her sufficient legacy to the descendants of that babe which she must leave so sad'y soon. During her illness she encouraged her husband to give her up, saying: "If it please the Lord to strip thee of thy helpmeet again, my God will be thy Rock." Again she said: "I have not been afraid of death these many years. I am sweetly com-

forted in my affliction; the Lord is exceeding good to my soul." A little before she died she murmured "My God, my God, I come, I come." She was a rare character. I want to meet her in the ancestral home above.

JOSEPH KIRKBRIDE, I.

But what of Joseph Kirkbride, her husband, and the first on American soil to bear our familv name? In 1697 we find him honored with a place in the legislative assembly; to which he was frequently re-elected. In 1707 his name heads a list of men appointed Justice of the Peace by Sir William Keith. (Colonial Records. Vol III, p. 18.) He was many years in the magistracy. In 1719 he with John Reading as commissioners for West Jersey, surveyed the boundary line between New Jersey and New York, and was allowed ten shillings a day, proclamation money, for the forty days of this important service. He also participated in the last great Indian conference, May 9, 1735. So far as I know, that boundary line still stands as official

In 1687 as a lad of 23, Joseph had bought 800 acres of ground at Falls from Thomas Atkinson for £35. Public services far and wide as surveyor brought him expert knowledge of vari-

ous sections and values and many chances of wise investment; so that when he died, he left to his descendants 13,439 acres of land and "money of New Jersey at 8 shillings to the ounce," amounting to \$10,000. The old homestead farm at Falls containing 101 acres was sold in 1873 to Mahlon Moon at \$210 an acre. A small dwelling with cellar used now as tool and woodhouse, said to have been built by the original Joseph, still stands on the old farm. When the Free Society of Traders closed out their affairs in 1720, Joseph bought 2597 acres and from this tract sold to the Dyles, father and son, enough land to found Doylestown, Pa.

But let me answer a question that is disturbing your honest hearts. Did Joseph Kirkbride ever square accounts with his old master in England? If not, we are ashamed of him. I come to that. Joseph early became a distinguished Quaker preacher: and after Sarah's death he left the baby Mahlon in the care of maiden aunts, and bearing his certificate from the Friends' association he went back to England, paid in full the tradesman, with whom he was apprenticed, travelled 5365 miles in the old home land and attended 425 meetings, speaking doubtless at most if not all, and returning to America in 1704. Anthony Morris, who with John Shinn, had come over to Pennsylvania about 1680, sent

a note of commendation back to England with his "good friend, Joseph Kirkbride." Joseph died full of years and services and honors in 1737, bequeathing vast landed estates to his family; and giving his "three nigero boys, Isaac, Cuffa and Ishmael" to his son Joseph. The stain of slave-holding we regret in him as in George Washington, but let us blame the age rather than the men. Robert Proud in his great history, edition of 1797, Vol. I, p 198, has this to say: "Joseph Kirkbride is an instance * * * of an advancement from low beginnings to rank of eminence and esteem through industry, with a prudent and virtuous conduct. He was a preacher among the Quakers, and for many years in the magistracy and frequently in the assembly. He is said to have been an exemplary and a zealous promoter of his profession, and a very serviceable person in divers respects and capacities;" adding, "He lived in Bucks County where he died 1st month in 1737." We are PROUD of him thus praised by MR. PROUD.

MAHLON KIRKBRIDE, II.

Joseph Kirkbride stands alone in generation No. 1 of our American Kirkbride ancestry. Of his thirteen children who would form generation No. 2, our branch of the family finds its an-

cestral head in MAHLON, the only child of his second wife, the sainted Sarah Stacy. The boy, named after his grandfather, Mahlon Stacy, was like both father and grandfather in piety, public spirit, activity, ability and influence. He was not a minister, and no record appears of a minister since till James and Sherman now, but "he was made an elder in the church to watch over the state of the ministry for the encouragement of the fearful and the timid ones, and clothed with authority to suppress unruly spirits, and those in whose communication no savor of the Holy Unction could be found." If some such Board would suppress all uninspiring preachers in our day, what painful silence would reign in some of our pulpits! Mahlon served in the Assembly in 1740, (noted in Proud's History, Vol. II, p. 221), possibly at other times. In 1756 he was elected again, despite his known opposition to the then pending French and Indian war, but he positively resigned. He was also in the magistracy, and held many responsible civil appointments.

But what concerns us much is the fact that in 1724 as a lad of 21 he married a blithe young lass named Mary Sotcher.

When William Penn was about to leave this country for the last time, he gave his cherished home and estates at Pennsbury into the care of his trusted steward "worthy John Sotcher" and the accomplished stewardess, Mary Loitus.

Sotcher had come over with Penn in the Canterbury, December, 1699, and was well established in the favor of his chief. Mary Loftus too was much beloved and honored, and when these two favorite helpers fell in love and were ready to announce their engagement, the governor and his wife urged a prompt marriage before they themselves should sail, and this wedding took place in due Quaker form October 1701. The marriage certificate was made out by Joseph Kirkbride, and Mary Sirkett, Oct. 16, 1701, and signed by the guests, including William Penn. his wife Hannah.—after whom the first child of the Sotcher home was named,—and Letitia Penn. It was witnessed also by the eminent James Logan, Secretary of the Province: Phinhas Pemberton, Provincial Counsellor and Judge: Samuel Jennings, Governor of West New Jersey: John Shippen, son of the Mayor of Philadelphia, and many others of prominence. The original certificate now hangs in Washinngton's headquarters at Morristown, N. J. This was the on'v wedding Penn is known to have attended in America. * Immediately after the union of the happy pair Penn returned to England, leaving the bridal party in full control of Pennsbury.

Frequent, and delightfully friendly letters came back from the governor to John and Mary

^{*}So General Davis in "History of Bucks County."



Mahlon Kirkbride, 1810-84



Frances (Keen) Kirkbride



Hannah (Kirkbride) Paxson, 1795-1837



Huldah Kirkbride 1814-94

Sotcher. I copy one to show the confidence and intimacy. It is dated London, 18, 3 mo, 1708.

"John Sotcher,—Loving friend:

I had thy letter with satisfaction and glad to hear of thy and family's welfare. I am glad to hear of the good condition of poor Pennsbury, beloved of us all, and there in the will of God we wish ourselves. If thou leaves it, give J. Logan an account of thy labors, as acres cleared and fence, and of both plow and sow land. Likewise, deliver all ye linen, and household stuff into his care. I bless God, we are all alive and well, save our dear sweet Hannah, whom the Lord took four months ago at 4 years, the wittiest and womanliest creature that her age could show, but His holy wi'l be done.

Thy loving friend, WILLIAM PENN."

About 1708 Sotcher gave up his stewardship and bought property at Bristol where by authority of the colonial government he established a ferry over the Delaware to Burlington, N. J. In 1712 he was elected to the Provincial Assembly from Bucks county and re-elected continually till 1722. He died honored and mourned Feb. 26, 1730. His oldest daughter was married to Joseph Kirkbride, Jr., "a prominent citizen of Lucks county." Mary Sotcher (our ancestress) from 18 Sept., 1704; died 22 Nov., 1778; married

Mahlon Kirkbride (our ancestor), "brother of Joseph, and equally prominent.* A chest and cradle brought by Wm. Penn from England in 1682 belonged to Mary Sotcher and were preserved in the Kirkbride family for generations. They are now among the collection of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

To Mahlon and Mary (Sotcher) Kirkbride were born twelve children, Stacy, Hannah, Mary, Sarah, Rebecca, Ruth, Letitia, Mahlon, ROB-ERT,—from whom we trace descent,—Jonathan and David, twins, and Joseph. The young pair settled in Lower Makefield, and there built a stone house in 1730 that stood in good repair till removed by his grandson, Mahlon, in 1853. There for more than a century sojourners, and especially quaker preachers found royal welcome. There too was kept for generations the eradle of Letitia Penn, doing busy service for the Kirkbride babies.† The picture of the cradle is shown in recent Bucks county records. Mahlon Kirkbride by tireless industry accumulated large property interests, distributing at his decease 4,000 acres of land, and \$15,000 in eash. A large family had grown up beneath the paternal roof.

^{*}For this brief sketch of John Sotcher we are indebted to an article by J. G. Leach procured by Mrs. Walton of Woodbury, N. J.

[†]See picture of this Letitia Penn cradle, page 8.

carefully trained in honor, piety and practical affairs.

"One by one they had married and left the old hearthstone where the cheerful wood fire used to blaze far up the wide throat of the chimney, affording light for the girls to ply their needles in knitting or spin with the busy wheels. A tallow dip at the window shone out into the night for the wayfarer, and helped the boys with books to get ready for the stern school master in the morning, whose potent remedy for dull scho'arship lay in the twigs of the river birch or hickory. Nuts from the woods, [where are they now?] apples from the orchard, doughnuts from the cupboard, pleasant converse and then the quieting chapter," so the days went by, typical of the times. Fifty-two years of happy married life, and with Mary Sotcher, the wife of his youth still at his side, Mahlon sank to rest in 1776 at the age of 73, whi'e the sound of the liberty bell still echoed its thrilling call to the roar of the revolutionary guns. His wife survived him but three years. He made a will, characteristic of his age, wherein he bequeathed to Mary his "beds, chairs, silver spoons, pewter, tea-stand, tea-kettle, looking glasses, pot-hook, fire shovel and tongs, a choice cow and the mare Bonnie, the great Bible," and the privilege of many things including "pump and smoke-house," pasture for the two "creatures," apples for sauce and eider with fire-wood cut and brought to the door, a carriage for meeting, limiting all to the "time of her widowhood," and "while she remains my widow." Think of that after their golden wedding!

ROBERT KIRKBRIDE, III.

Noting David and Jonathan, the interesting twins with only the remark that Dr. Thomas Story Kirkbride, the famous specialist on insanity, and founder of the Kirkbride Asylum at Philadelphia, was a grandchild of Jonathan; recal!ing, too, that the great English Ouaker, Joseph I. Gurney, founder of the Gurney division of the Friends, married Eliza P. Kirkbride of Bridesburg, Pa., whose father, Joseph Kirkbride, was a grandson of Mahlon; and passing over the rest of Mahlon's large family, our special interest for the third generation narrows down to one boy, ROBERT, who was born in 1737, the year his grandfather, the first Joseph, died, and about the time George Washington, as a five-vear-old, would be hacking cherry trees. Of Robert we know nothing but that he married Hannah Bidgood, daughter of William Bidgood, who bore him nine children, Mary, Esther, Mahlon, Sarah, Letitia, Robert, David, and Ann. Later he married Hannah Wilson. The Monthly meeting 22d of ninth month,

1798, records the death of "James Emlen, Robert Kirkbride and Mary Sharpless." In the quiet church yard sleeps many a noble form unhonored and unsung. Of Robert's three boys, Mahlon must have died young for David's son Asher Miner as recorded by his daughter, Mrs. Mary K. Warren, always said his father had only one brother and he was Robert, who married Mary Rogers and buried their children in infancy. Of the six daughters, all married but Ann. Robert's wife, Hannah Bidgood Kirkbride, survived till July 16, 1826.

DAVID KIRKBRIDE, IV.

Among the children of Robert and Hannah Kirkbride the member of that fourth generation who is our direct ancestor was DAVID, born in 1775. Like his forbears he was a farmer in Bucks county, Pennsylvania. His life was quiet and uneventful. He married Mary Jones and their household was blest with nine cihldren, Hannah, Ann, Robert, John, Asher Miner, David, Mahlon, Huldah and Watson, names familiar and beloved by this generation, though Aunt Huldah, the last one spared to us, went home in 1894. I wish we knew more about the home life and business interests of David and Mary. Perhaps we catch some reflections through their children, and if so,

we give them honor. David died December 8th, 1830, when his oldest grandchild now living, our beloved veteran who never will seem old, Aunt Nancy Morris was but a prattling girl of four. Mary his wife survived till Nov. 20, 1844. Their children, members of the fifth generation of Kirkbrides in America, are so close to our time that no one of them can claim us all as descendants, nor can we all look to any one as a common ancestor. Joseph, begat Mahlon, Mahlon begat Robert, Robert begat David; so far we trace our way together. From David we separate into branches which must be considered somewhat apart.

Of David's family Ann, born before 1800, married William Field and died childless. Of her life further than that we are ignorant, as also of David, Jr., who was born about 1808 and died unmarried in the sixties. Huldah, born 1814, never married. She lived in Philadelphia and afterward in Ohio, where she died in 1894 leaving grateful memories. Watson, born 1818, lived in Philadelphia some time with the Paxsons. In the seventies he came out to his brother Robert's in Ohio, where he died of cancer, unmarried, in 1878.

Hannah, born 1795, married Walter Paxson who kept hotel about Philadelphia and she died Aug. 20, 1873. Nine children were born to them, Caroline, Augustine, David, Ann K., Mary, El-

len, Evan J., Louise, James H. Of all this family no known heirs survive.

ROBERT KIRKBRIDE, V.

Robert, born Sept. 29, 1800, was married to Sarah Shaw in Bucks county, Pennsylvania. They lived a while at Wilkesbarre, Pa., and then moved back to Bucks County. While in Pennsylvania four children were born to them, Nancy, Ferdinand, Mary and B. Franklin. In 1831 they turned their faces toward the newer land of Ohio, and settled in Berlin, Mahoning county, on a farm where many hallowed memories cluster. Here more bright baby faces came to gladden the home, Watson, James, Joseph, Asher and Mahlon. Of Robert's children the oldest, Naney, and the youngest Mahlon, alone survive. We are glad of them. The name of Robert Kirkbride stood for honesty, and truth. Sometimes to his friskey grandchildren he seemed severe and dignified, but as a foil for his not unkind severity, there was ever present the sweet patience and generous kindness of the little wife, Sarah, worthy to rank with the Sarah Stacy of old. How masterful she was and yet how unassuming! As we climb up the years and get a better view of her unhurried vet blessedly strenuous life, as we see her forehanded in home work vet knitting with the ease



Robert Kirkbride, 1800-78



Sarah (Shaw) Kirkbride



Asher M. Kirkbride, 1806-67



Ann (Bee) Kirkbride

and the speed of magic for a lot of related youngscers, ever busy yet never too busy to furnish a cookie or find a string or bind up a stumped toe, we often think Blessed be grandmother! Robert passed away in 1878.

JOHN KIRKBRIDE, V.

John Kirkbride, son of David, born about 1803, married Ruth Hough and settled in Norristown, Pa., where she died in a few years leaving two sons, Charles H. and David. The latter died in childhood. After her death he married Mrs. Sarah Potts, (nee Sailor) who bore him eight children; Ferdinand P., John H., Ruthanna H., Walter Paxson and Abram H. twins, Mary Ellen, Watson, and Hannah P. He was drowned in Nov., 1847. Of his character and relationships and manner of life we are not informed, as none now living can recall.

ASHER M. KIRKBRIDE, V.

Asher Miner Kirkbride, born July 18, 1806 settled near Woodbury, N. J. in 1830, and three years later married Ann, daughter of Thomas and Rebecca Bee. They had five children; Thomas Bee, David, Mary Jones, Asher, and John B. (died in infancy 1851). Of these Mary still lives and to her more than any one else is

due both inspiration and information in the preparation of this history. Asher, and Ann his wife, were a noble-looking pair, and their looks did not belie their character. Sturdy strength and fine honor marked his personality and to old age she carried the bright, clear eyes of a beautiful and generous soul. He died with the respecof all who knew him in 1867; and his children whose genial hospitality many of us have known, and whose character has kept the fine simplicity of the early colonial Friends, have added honor to his name, tho all have passed to their reward except Mary.

MAHLON KIRKBRIDE, V.

Mahlon Kirkbride, fifth generation, was born 1810 and followed his older brother Robert from Bucks county, Pennsylvania, to the good land of Ohio where he settled down for life in the Quaker city of Salem. He married Frances Keen, a tall and graceful girl who shared his joys and sorrows till his death in 1884 and still survived till 1897. He became thoroughly identified with the life and progress of Salem where his children by integrity and ability have continued to make the name of Kirkbride one of prominence, influence and honor. So they have gone, Robert, John, Asher, Mahlon, and the rest. Quiet, retiring, but true

to their inbred Quaker honesty they were sound branches of the family tree from which we today have sprung. The old homesteads are in other hands but blessed memories of care and cheer which lodged in them are ours forever.

Of the sixth generation which comprises their children, none of Hannah Paxson's nine children survive, only Nancy and Mahlon of Robert's nine, Charles and Watson of John's ten, Mary alone of Asher's four, and Martha. *Louis, David, Josephine, and Frances of Mahlon's seven. Beautiful things might be said of the dear departed whose graves have but lately been baptized with our tears; those who remain and all their families, are worthy of some special word, but we spare you the blushes of modesty. We give you heartfelt appreciation without printed praise.

But every one in whom flows the good and honest blood of Mahlon Stacy and Joseph Kirkbride, and John and Mary Sotcher ought to so live now that our family name may go on untarnished, and the blood be pure and strong as in the sturdy days of Penn, and that our history may be as free from taint and as full of service and achievement as that which our ancestors made in the Quaker colonies of New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

^{*}Since the above was in press Louis H. Kirkbride, our honored president, has passed away.

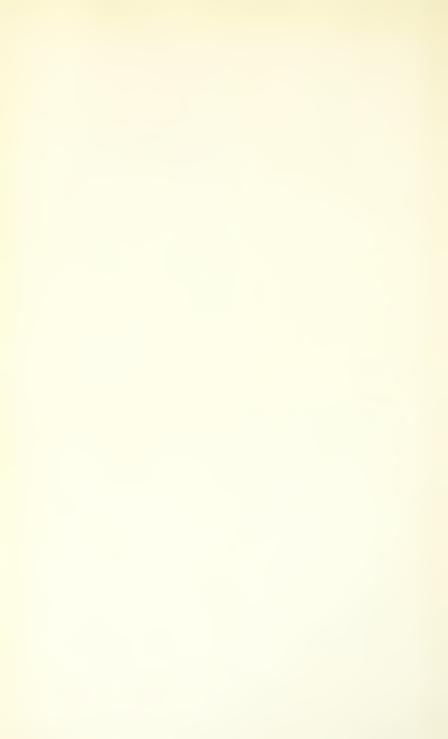


David Kirkbride 1808-6—

Watson Kirkbride 1816-78







GENEALOGY

the person belongs.) Matthew and Magdalene Kirkbride, parents of Joseph, married 1655, lived and died in England. Mahlon and Mrs. Stacy, (The number prefixed to a name indicates the generation to which parents of Sarah Stacv, emigrated to America in 1678. (1) **JOSEPH KIRKBRIDE**, 1662-1737. Married Sarah Stacy, 1702. Mahlon born 1703.

Other children, Joseph, Martha, Phebe, Hannah, Jane, John. Robert, Mary, Thomas, Sarah, Jane? Thomas? (2) MAHI,ON KIRKBRIDE, 1703-1776. Married Mary Sotcher. daughter of John Sotcher and Mary Loftus.

Other children. Stacy, Hannah, Mary, Sarah, Rebecca, Ruth. Letitia, Mahlon, David and Jonathan, twins, Joseph.

Robert born 1737.

(3) ROBERT KIRKBRIDE, 1737-1797. Married Hannah Bidgood David born 1775.

Т

H

E

Other children, Mary, Esther, Mahlon, Hannah, Sarah, Letitia, Robert, Ann.

DAVID KIRKBRIDE, 1775-1830. Married Mary Jones. (+)

Children, Hannah, Ann, Robert, John, Asher Miner, David, Huldah, Mahlon, Watson.

Hannah Kirkbride, 1795-1873. Married Walter Paxson. (5)

- 5) Caroline Passor (Infant).
- Augustin Paxson, 1820-1836, David Paxson, (Infant.)
 -) Ann K. Paxson, 1823-1858.
 -) Mary Paxson, (Infant).) Ellen Paxson, 1828-1855.
- 5) Evan Jones Paxson, 1830-7
 - (6) Louise Paxson, (Infant).
- (6) James Henry, 1834-1835-

- (5) Ann Kirkbride, 1797-2-2. Married William Field: died childless.
- (6) Nancy Kirkbride, 1826. Married James Morris, who lost Robert Kirkbride, 1800-1878. Married Sarah Shaw. his life in the Civil War.
- (8) J. Wilber Beight, 1868. Married Norah Lee. (7) Sarah Ellen Morris, 1847. Married Isaac Beight.
- Thomas Franklin Morris, 1849. Married Florence
- (8) Paul Morris, 1874. Married Nettie Horton.
 - (9) Louis Morris, 1897.
- (9) Florence Morris, 1901.
 - (9) Bertha Morris, 1902.
- (9) Dawn Juanita Morris, 1912.
- (8) Louis Morris, 1880-1894.
- (8) Franklin Mortis, 1883. Married Dawn Wearstler.(9) Dorothy Morris, 1906.

(8) Adda Maud Morris, 1875. Married George Hall.

Calvin Byron Morris, 1855-1856.

M. Adaline Morris, 1857. Married James V. Milhous.

(8) Nancy Isabel Milhous, 1870. Died in infancy.

Martha Ellen Milhous, 1877.

Vivian A. Milhous, 1881.

(8) Morris V. Milhous, 1886-1891.

(Afterward married Sarah Lazarus. Children only by Ferdinand Kirkbride, 1827-1897. Married Bliza Morris, first marriage.) (g)

(7) John Kirkbride, 1849. Married Lavina Craig.(8) Clyde T. Kirkbride, 1876. Married Mattie E. Kirk

(8) Kate Kirkbride, 1879. Married Nelson Hart-

(9) Rollin Hartzell, 1913.

- (8) Josephine Kirkbride, 1882. Married Harvey Rose.
 - (9) Mary Kathryn Rose, 1912.
- (8) Jay Eirkbride, 1886. Married Maud Courtney.
 - Robert Kirkbride, 1851. Married Ursula Diver. ("Miterward married Elizabeth Carson; later Alma Watson, Children only by first marriage.)
- (8) Willis Kirkbride, 1875. Married Mary Gilbert.
- (9) Glenn Kirkbride, 1898.
- 9) Harriet Kirkbride, 1900.
- (9) Wilma Kirkbride, 1904.(9) Esther Kirkbride, 1907.
 - (9) Alice Kirkbride, 1909.
- (9) Robert Kirkbride, 1911.
- (8) Charles M. Kirkbride, 1878. Married Martha Shilladav.
 - (9) Helen Kirkbride, 1903.
- 9) William Robert Kirkbride, 1912.

- (8) Alfred Kirkbride, 1880. Married Verdi
- (9) Verdi Kirkbride, 1911. Died in infancy.
- (8) Lucy Kirkbride, 1884. Married Augustus
- Mary Kirkbride, 1829-1858. Married John Morris, twin brother of James, husband of Naney. (9)
 - (7) Perdinand Morris, 1848-1873. Married Naney Ann
- (8) Lida Morris, 1867. Married Joseph Spencer.
 (2) (A girl) Spencer.
 (9) (A girl) Spencer.
 (9) (A girl) Spencer.
- (9) (A girl) Spencer. (9) (A girl) Spencer.
- (6) B Franklin Kirkbride, 1831-1899. Married Lucy Hoadly; no children. (William H. Kirkbride reared in the family.)
- (7) Mabel L. Kirkbride, 1879. Married D. L. Green, de-Later married Bleanor Dickson.

- (8) Robert Franklin Green, 1901.
- Robert R. F. Kirkbride, 1881. Margaret D. Kirkbride, 1884. Married W. B. Shively.
 - (8) Robert Lavergne Shively, 1905.
 - (8) Helen Margarite Shively, 1907.
 - (7) Sarab Adda Kirkbride, 1888.
- Watson Kirkbride, 1834-1910. Married Z. Jane Sutherland. (O)
 - Alphonso Kirkbride, 1800-1864.
 Ida Kirkbride, 1862-1864.
- James Franklin Kirkbride, 1864. Married Rose Mil-

Rose Esther Kirkbride, (adopted), 1907.

- Sherman Asher Kirkbride, 1865. Married Clara 1
- (8) Raymond Watson Kiirkbride, 1892.
 - (8) Arthur Daniel Kirkbride, 1896.
- (8) Theodore Kirkbride, 1899. Died same year.
- (8) Clara Dorothy Kirkbride, 1905.

- (8) Jennie Blizabeth Kirkbride, (adopted.) 1912-13. (7) Lewis Calvin Kirkbride, 1868. Married Roberta Park.
 - lames S. Kirkbride, 1837-1888, Unmarried.
 - loseph Kirkbride, 1838-1899, Unmarried. \odot
- sher M. Kirkbride, 1844-1863. Killed at Missionary Ridge
 - dahlon Kirkbride, 1846. Married Mary Votaw. 9
- (7) Asher Kirkbride, 1868. Married Mary Weaver.
 - (8) Norah Kirkbride, 1893. (8) Wilber Kirkbride, 1898.
- Chester Thomas Kirkbride, 1870. Married Lizzie Veaver, twin of Mary.
 - (8) Margaret Mary Kirkbride, 1911.
- (8) Frederick Stanley, 1904-1910. (Adopted by Sarah Kirkbride, 1877-1908. Married Summer Stan-Chester T. K.)
- (5) John Kirkbride, 1803-1847. Married Ruth Hough.
- (6) Charles H. Kirkbride, 1827. Married Annie Fowler.

- Mary Louisa Kirkbride, 1851. Married Rev. Isaac Vismer. (<u>)</u>
 - (8) Ida May Wismer, 1886. Married William A.
 - Martha Florine Wismer, 1888. Holland.
- Anna Catharine Wismer, 1895.
 - 1da Kirkbride, 1854.
- William M. Kirkbride, 1862. Married Mary Duffield. (7)
- (8) Charles H. Kirkbride, 1886. Married Esther Wren.
 - (9) Jesse Kirkbride, 10—.
- Nettie Kirkbride, 18—. Married John Rennie. Walter Kirkbride, 18—. Married Anna Cooper
- William Kirkbride, 18—.
- Charles II, Kirkbride, 1862. Twin of William. Mar-(8) Lorenzo Kirkbride, 18—
- David, 18—. Died in childhood.

John Kirkbride (5) afterward married Mrs. Sarah Potts nee Sailor,) Their children were as follows:

- 6) Ferdinand P. Kirkbride, 18—,
- o) John Li. Kirkbride, 18—. Unmarried.
- Ruthanna P. Kirkbride, 18—. Married Frank Walker.
 - Valter Paxson Kirkbride, 1840. Died unmarried. (0)
- Abram H. Kirkbride, 1840, Twin of Walter, Died unmarried (\odot)
 - (6) Mary Ellen Kirkbride, 18—. Died unmarried.
- Vatson Kirkbirde, 1843. Married Belle Solomon. (E)
 - (6) Hannah Paxson Kirkbride, 1848.
- Asher Miner Kirkbride, 1806-1867. Married Anna Bee. (3)
- (7) Gilbert fredell Kirkbride, 1864. Married Deborah Thomas Bee Kirkbride, 1834-1908. Married Anna Iredell. (<u>(</u>)
 - Owen.
- (8) Emerson Kirkbride, 1891.(8) Joseph Owen Kirkbride, 1897.
- (7) Linda Kirkbride, 1870. Married Howard Davis. (8) Trene Davis, 1892.

- 8) Ralph Thomas Davis, 1894.
 - 8) Edgar Kirkbride Davis, 1895.8) Alvin Harper Davis, 1897.
 - 8) Annie Davis, 1901.
- (8) Heward Bee Davis, 1905.(8) Louis Cattell Davis, 1909.
- (6) David Kirkbride, 1837-1907. Married Rebecca Iredell, sis-
- (7) Mary I. Kirkbride, 18(2. Married Wi'liam R. Skinner. ter of Anna.
 - (8) Russell II. Skinner, 1884.
- (8) Gertrude Skinner, 1885.(8) Leola Skinner, 1887.
 - Anna B. Skinner, 1888.
- Rebecca K. Skinner, 1891
 Clyde Skinner, 1893.
- 8) Eva Skinner, 1896.
- (8) Mildred Skinner, 1807.
-) Wi. jam M. Skinner, 1900.

8) Emma Skinner, 1903.

B. Kirkbride, 1863. Married Amos G. Haines. \nna

8) Asher K. Haines, 1888.

(8) Bessie T. Haines, 1890.

8) Susanna W. Haines, 1892.

(8) David K. Haines, 1894.

(8) Amos G. Haines, 1897.

(8) Floyd G. Haines, 1901.

(8) Edgar Howard Haines, 1904.

Janes Kirkbride 1865 Married Fluer

(7) Laura Kirkbride, 1865. Married Elmer Haines. (7) Asher Miner Kirkbride, 1868. Married Hannah

Asher Miner Kirkbride, 1868. Married Hannah Jaggard.

Harold Kirkbride, 1896.

(8) Raehel Kirkbride, 1897.(8) McIvin Kirkbride, 1900

(8) Norman Kirkbride, 1907 (8) Asbor M. Kirkbrida 1r

(8) Asher M. Kirkbride, Jr., 1912.
7) Eva Kirkbride, 18—.
7) Hannah Kirkbride, 18—.

- (7) Mice Kirkbride, 18—. Married Reuben L. Warren. (7) John B. Warren, 1862. Married Maragret Sharp. (3)
 - - Mary Jane Warren, 1896.
- Anna Walton Warren, 1899.
- Anna Kirkbride Warren, 1865. Married Charles Valton. (7)
- Mary Rebecca Walton, 1888. Nellie T. Walton, 1889-18—.
 - Gladys Walton, 1892.
- Wayne Walton, 1893. Ruth Walton, 1901.
- Asher Kirkbride, 1843-1905. Married Martha B. Sweeten. (e)
 - John T. Kirkbride, 1867. Married Lida J. Davis. Marvin C. Kirkbride, 1869.
- Charles K. Kirkbride, 1873. Married C. Elizabeth \ustin.
 - (8) Charles Austin Kirkbride, 1900.

- (8) Martha Ellen Kirkbride, 1903.
 - (8) Elizabeth Z. Kirkbride, 1905.
 - (6) John B. Kirkbride, 1851. Died in infancy.
 - (6) John B. Kirkbride, 1851. Died in infan David Kirkbride, 1808-180-. Unnarried.
- Mahlon Kirkbride, 1810-1884. Married Frances Keen.
- (6) Martha Kirkbride, 1838. Married James Donaldson.
- (8) Ethel Donaldson, 1885. Married E. B. Harri-(7) Edgar Donaldson, 1861. Married Mary Ellen Carle
- :01). 70) Edear Dena
- (9) Edgar Donaldson Flarrison, 1909.
 - (9) Howard Keith Harrison, 1912. Flora Donaldson, 1887.
 - Esther Donaldson, 1890-1899.
- (8) Lois Isabel Donaldson, 1897. Effic Donaldson, 1867. Married Charles B. Hunt.
 - (8) Nathan Hunt, 1898.

()

- (8) Esther Hunt, 1902.
- (7) Leora Donaldson, 1871-1906. Married John Moore.

- (8) Ruth Moore, 1898.
- (7) Howard Donaldson, 1876. Married Anna Covne. (9) Cora Donaldson, 1906.
 - (9) Vernice Donaldson, 1909.
- (6) Louis Henry Kirkbride, 1840-1913. Married Emma Gaskell, deceased.
- (7) Ella Frances Kirkbride, 1871.(7) Elizabeth Kirkbride, 1874. Married John Campbell.
- Wallace Kirkbride, 1876. Married Effie Hunt, dereased.
 - (8) Frances Louisa Kirkbride, 1901.
- (8) Louis Henry Kirkbride, 1902. (8) Frederic Kirkbride, 1909.
- (7) Homer Kirkbride, 1866. Married Harriet Widdup. (6) David Kirkbride, 1842. Married Mary Tucker.
 - (8) Mildred Kirkbride, 1896.
- Howard Kirkbride, 1868-1873.
- Adelbert Kirkbride, 1884.

(7) Harry Dunn, 1874. Married Martha L. Turner. (6) Josephine Kirkbride, 1845. Married Seth Dunn.

Ruth Esther Dunn (adopted) 1912. (8) Josephine A. Dunn, 1899-1904.

Walter Dunn, 1876. Married Emily Hoopes.

Mary Dunn, 1900. (∞)

Robert Dunn, 1902.

Josephine Dunn, 1904.

William Dunn, 1906. Edward Dunn, 1909.

Albert Wendell Dunn, 1912.

Nellie Dunn, 1878. Married Sam U. Camp. (8) Franklin Camp, 1904.

Prancis Camp, 1906. Martha Camp, 1908.

Mahlon Camp, 1910.

Rollin Dunn, 188-. Married Zella Coffee. (8) Margaret Dunn, 1908. (8) Hazel Dunn, 1910.

(6) John Harris Kirkbride, 1848-1904. Married Hannalt Far-

Mary Rachel Kirkbride, 1852-1898. Married Benj. Miller. (7) Jesse Miller, 1875, 1809. (9)

(7) Jesse Miller, 1875-1892.(7) Clara Miller, 1876. Married Frank Curty.

Rachel Curty, 1905-1908.

Edwin Curty, 1907.

Kathryn Curty, 1908. Paul Curty, 1911.

Rae Miller, 1878. Married Oliver Hopkins.

. mey Miller, 1880. Married Leroy Gilbert.

John Gilbert, 1900.

(8) Esther Gilbert, 1903-1910. Helen Gilbert, 1901.

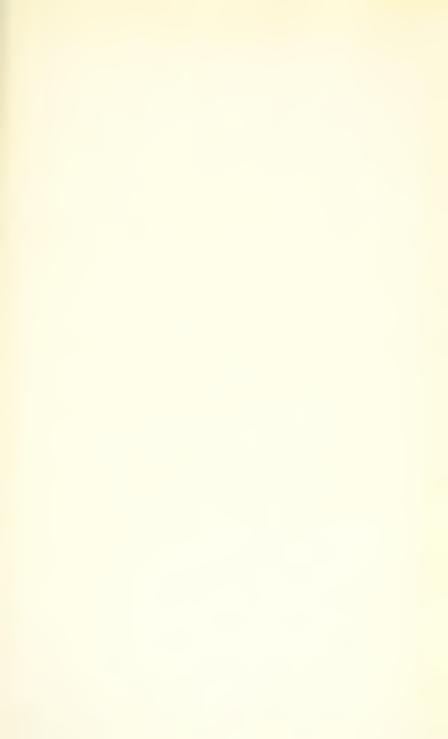
Merl Gilbert, 1908.

Frederic Mahlon Mil er, 1882-1892. (8) Margery Mae Gilbert, 1909.

- Frances Miller, 1884. Married Lawrence Hester. Edna Hester, 1902. <u>.</u>
- (8) Alfred Hester, 1894-1904. Mary Louise Miller, 1886. Married Earl Conover.
 - Mahlon Conover, 1902.
- Elizabeth Conover, 1908.
 - Nellie Miller, 1888-1892. lazel Miller, 1890-1892.
- Mahlon Miller, 1894-1899. Edith Miller, 1892. $\mathbb{S} \mathbb{S} \mathbb{S}$
 - (6) Prances Kirkbride, 1857.
- Huldah Kirkbride, 1814-1894.

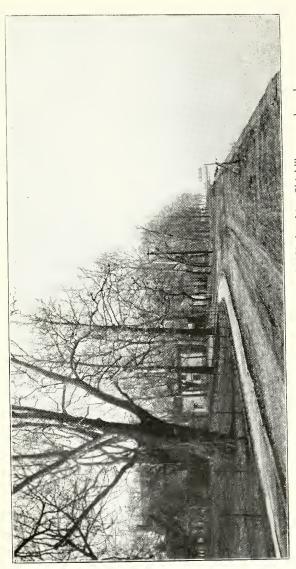
Watson Kirkbride, 1816-1878.

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THE "WITCH TREE"

A letter dated Jan. 8, 1913, from Henry S. Haines, Surveyor General of West New Jersey to Howard S. Davis, has this to say about the tree, (see picture on opposite page), where the Shield, Fearing Mahlon Staey, our first ancestor in America, was moored in December, 1678. "The belief is universal with those who have been interested in our earliest history, and in the traditiona' evidences concerning this particu'ar object that this large, state'v sycamore is the tree referred to in Smith's history as the one before which the ship 'Shield' was anchored and to which it was 'moored.' I have known it for seventy years. It was as large and imposing in my car 'est boyhood as it is now, and is now as vigorous apparently as then. It is the nearest tree of such possible antiquity to the water and there seems nothing to render unreasonable the assumption made for it except what might appear to be the want of necessity for fastening the ship already anchored and as it appears frozen in to objects on the shore. In Barber and Howe's Historical Collections of New Jersey this tree is ea led the 'Witch Tree' and quaint verses accompany the historical text."



The "Witch Tree" to which in December of 1678 the ship "Shield" was anchored



MAHLON STACY'S LETTER

Writing from Falls of Delaware, 26th of 4th month, 1680, to his brother Revell Stacy who in a correspondence from England had noted some disparaging accounts of the provinces of New Jersey and Pennsylvania, Mahlon Stacy, father-in-law of the original Joseph Kirkbride, replied as follows, the letter being copied in many standard colonial histories:

"As to the strange reports you hear of us and our country, I affirm they are not true, but fear they are spoken from a spirit of envy. It is a country that produces all things for the sustenance of man in a p'entiful manner, or I should be ashamed of what I have heretofore written; but having truth on my side I can stand before the face of all the evil spies.

I have travelled through most of the settled places and some that are not, and find the country very apt to answer the expectations of the diligent: I have seen orchards laden with fruit to admiration, their very limbs torn to pieces with the weight, and the fruit the most delicious to the taste and lovely to behold. I have seen an apple tree from a Pippin kernel yield a barrel of curious cider, and peaches in such plenty that some people took their carts a peach gathering. I could

but smile at the sight of it. They are a very delicate fruit and hang almost like our onions that are tied on ropes. I have seen and known this summer forty bushels of bold wheat harvested from one sown. We have from the time called May to Michaelmas, (29th of 9th month), great store of very good wild fruit, as Strawberries, Cranberries, and Huckleberries which are very much like our Bilberries in England, only very much sweeter; the Cranberries very much like Cherries for co'or and bigness, which may be kept until fruits come again. An excellent sauce is made of them for Venison, Turkey and great fowl. They are better for tarts than either Cherries or Gooseberries. The Indians bring them to our homes in great quantities. My brother Robert Stacy had so many cherries this year as would have loaded many earts. (He came over in 1677). It is my judgment that fruit trees in this country destroy themselves by the very weight of their fruit

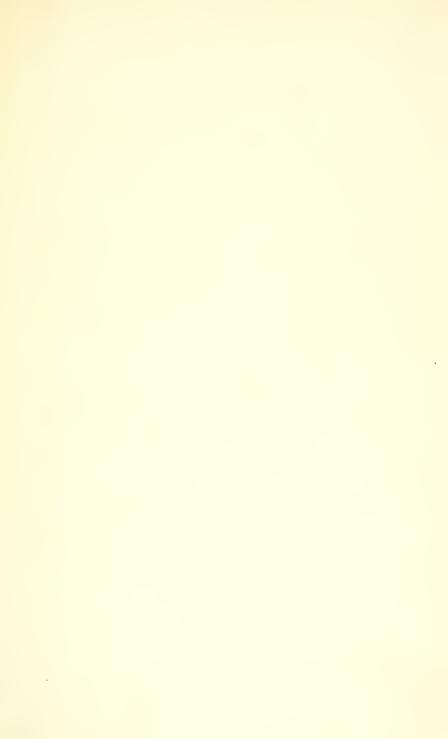
As for Venison and fowl, we have a great plenty. We have brought to our homes by the Indians seven or eight fat bucks of a day, and sometimes put by as many, having no occasion for them. My cousin Revell, [Thomas Revell came over in the "Shield" with Mahlon Stacy?] and I and some other men went last 3d month into the river to catch herring; for at that time they came in great shoals on to the shallows

We had no nets but after the Indian fashion made a round pinfold about two yards over and a foot high, but left a gap for the fish to go in at and made a bush to lay in thegap to keep the fish in. When that was done we took two long birches and tied their tops together and went about a stone's throw above our said pinfold. Then hauling these birch boughs down to the stream we drove thousands before us and so many got into our trap as it would hold. Then we began to throw them on shore as fast as three or four of us could by two or three at a time. After this manner in half an hour we could have filled a three bushel sack with as fine herrings as I ever saw.

As to beef and pork, there is great p'enty of it and cheap; also good sheep. The common grass of the country feeds beef very fat. I have seen last fall in Burlington eight or nine fat oxen and cows killed on a market day, al' very fat. Though I have spoken only of herrings, (lest anyone should think we have little other sorts), we have great plenty of most sorts of fish that I ever saw in England, besides several other sorts that are not known there, as Rock, Catfish, Shad, Sheepshead, Sturgeon, and fow's as plenty. Duck, Geese, Turkeys, Pheasants, Partridges, and many other sorts.

Indeed the country, take it as a wilderness, is a brave country, though no place will please

all. There is some barren land, and more wood than some would have on their land. Neither will the country produce corn without labor; nor is cattle to be got without something to buy them; nor bread with idleness; else it would be a brave country indeed. I question not but all them would give it a good word. For my part I like it so well I never had the least thought of returning to England, except on account of trade."









MAI 2 - 1257

